

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EUR-12 /089 W

-----081651Z 073600 /43

R 081530Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6061

INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MPS, PFOR, AG, SS

SUBJECT: SAHARA: RECENT POLISARIO ACTIVITIES

REF: NOUAKCHOTT 370

1. ALTHOUGH ALGERIANS HAVE RECENTLY BEEN PLAYING SAHARA DIPLOMACY IN VERY LOW KEY, POLISARIO ACTIVITIES AND PROPAGANDA CLAIMS CONTINUE.

2. ON DIPLOMATIC FRONT, HIGHLIGHT HAS BEEN FIRST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF CREATION OF SAHRAOUI REPUBLIC FEB 27. ACCORDING TO ALGERIAN PRESS, MORE THAN 50 FOREIGN DELEGATIONS, COMPRISED OF 200-300 PERSONS FROM EUROPE, AFRICA AND ASIA, ATTENDED PROCEEDINGS. TRY AS THEY MIGHT, HOWEVER, POLISARIO AND ALGERIANS COULD NOT MAKE FIRST ANNIVERSARY AS LARGE A PROPAGANDA SUCCESS AS THEY WOULD HAVE LIKED AND HAD TO CONTENT THEMSELVES WITH LIONIZING SUCH SECOND-LINE FIGURES AS MADAGASCAR FOREIGN MINISTER AND TOGOLESE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND PTT. ONLY ARAB DELEGATE PRESENT WAS UNNAMED LIBYAN.

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3. ON MILITARY FRONT, POLISARIO CONTINUES TO CLAIM SUCCESSES IN DESERT WARFARE. HIGHLIGHT WAS DESTRUCTION OF MAURITANIAN TRAIN BETWEEN ZOUERAT AND NOUDHIBOU (NOUAKCHOTT 370). COMBINED MOROCCAN-MAURITANIAN CASUALTIES FOR SECOND HALF OF FEBRUARY PLACED AT 400, ACCORDING TO LATEST POLISARIO

COMMUNIQUE, AND DESTRUCTION OF TWO MOROCCAN T-6 AIRCRAFT
ALSO CLAIMED. OUR IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, IS THAT
POLISARIO BATTLEFIELD REPORTING HAS BEEN A BIT THIN,
AND THIS MAY SUPPORT CONTENTION OF OTHER SOURCES THAT
MILITARY ACTIVITY IN SAHARA AT LOW LEVEL.

4. FINALLY, PRESS CONTINUES TO CARRY FEATURE MATERIAL
ON DEMORALIZATION OF MOROCCAN AND MAURITANIAN ARMED
FORCES.LYNE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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Subject: SAHARA: RECENT POLISARIO ACTIVITIES
TAGS: PFOR, PROP, MP, AG, SS, POLISARIO
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